

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 246186

51

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-10 PA-04

PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03

SCA-01 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 EB-11 FAA-00 EUR-25 L-03

H-03 SY-10 USSS-00 AF-10 NSCE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 IO-14

SPC-03 WRD-03 /154 R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT:LHOFFACKER:GMD

APPROVED BY S/CCT:LHOFFACKER

S/S-O:WNEWLIN

----- 031877

O 181456Z DEC 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 246186

TOSEC284, TOTAS 20

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR

SUBJECT: TERRORISM: ROME AIRPORT INCIDENT

SITUATION REPORT NO. 2 AS OF 0600 EST DECEMBER 18

1. THE GRIM DRAMA CONTINUED TO UNFOLD AT ATHENS AIRPORT IN THE EARLY MORNING AS THE ARAB TERRORISTS BARGAINED WITH THE GREEK MINISTER OF JUSTICE FOR THE RELEASE OF TWO ARAB PRISONERS. THE MINISTER STOOD FIRM AND THE TERRORISTS MAY HAVE KILLED SEVERAL OF THE HOSTAGES, INCLUDING THE CO-PILOT. A WOMAN HOSTAGE WAS REPORTEDLY *HOT AND HER BODY LEFT ON THE RUNWAY. THE TERRORISTS APPARENTLY ASKED TWO OR MORE ARAB AMBASSADORS RESIDENT IN ATHENS TO BOARD THE PLANE AS GUARANTORS OF THEIR EVENTUAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 246186

FREEDOM. THIS REQUEST WAS REFUSED. EVENTUALLY THE

PLANE TOOK OFF WITH THE TERRORISTS AND FLEW FIRST TO CAIRO AND THEN TO BEIRUT, UNSUCCESSFULLY SEEKING PERMISSION TO LAND. LEBANESE AUTHORITIES ORDERED CARS PARKED ON THE RUNWAY AT BEIRUT AIRPORT TO PREVENT A LANDING. THE PLANE THEN HEADED EAST AND LANDED AT DAMASCUS SHORTLY BEFORE 0300 EST.

2. EMBASSY ROME REPORTS A TOTAL OF 29 PERSONS WERE KILLED IN THE PAN AMERICAN 707 FIREBOMBING AT ROME AIRPORT; ONE PERSON REMAINS MISSING. ONLY 5 OF DEAD HAVE YET BEEN POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED. AMONG THE KNOWN

VICTIMS WERE FOUR MOROCCAN OFFICIALS, THREE OF CABINET RANK. NUMBER OF AMERICANS DEAD NOT YET KNOWN. RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, CASUALTIES, HOSTAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE246186
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LHOFFACKER:GMD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731218/aaaaanam.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24-Oct-2001 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORISM: ROME AIRPORT INCIDENT SITUATION REPORT NO. 2 AS OF 0600 EST DECEMBER 18
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, IT, GR
To: MADRID
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005